

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
POLLUTION/SITUATION REPORT
U.S.S. Lead Response - SitRep #11



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
Region 5

Subject: SitRep #11
U.S.S. Lead Response
East Chicago, IN

To: U.S.S. Lead Response Distribution List

Through: Jim Mitchell, Incident Commander
From: Jaime Julian, Situation Unit Leader

Date: 8/24/16
Reporting Period: 8/23/16, 1700 hours – 8/24/16, 1700 hours



Operations Section Chief updating relocation and cleaning schedule.

Section 1: Introduction & Site Background

The U.S. Smelter and Lead Refinery, Inc. (U.S.S. Lead) site is located in East Chicago, Lake County, Indiana. A copper smelter, lead refinery and secondary lead smelter operated on site from the 1920s to 1985. Smelting operations volatilized metals including lead and arsenic. Some lead-containing dust was wind deposited on the area soils during these operations. Blast furnace slag was stockpiled south of the plant building and spread once a year over an adjoining wetland south of the Site. The primary contaminants of concern are lead and arsenic which are present in exposed soils and subsequently could be tracked into the area residences.

EPA listed the U.S.S. Lead site to the National Priorities List (NPL) in 2009. The site includes part of the former U.S.S. Lead facility along with nearby commercial, municipal and residential areas. The overall site has been divided into three zones. The Removal Program is currently addressing soil and residential contamination in Zone 1 and specifically at the West Calumet Housing Complex (WCHC). Mulch has been placed over all exposed soils at the WCHC. Indoor sampling has been conducted in a subset of WCHC homes and analytical results are being validated. Teams have been mobilized to communicate directly with residents, develop temporary relocation procedures, develop cleaning procedures, and initiate outdoor sampling. The

Remedial Program is currently collecting samples in Zones 2 and 3, and the analytical results will be evaluated for other potential areas needing remediation.

EPA is working in a Unified Command Group with the City of East Chicago, the East Chicago Housing Authority (ECHA), the State of Indiana, the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR), and the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

1.1 Incident Command Post

The U.S. EPA Incident Command Post (ICP) is located at E. 149th Place and McCook Avenue, East Chicago, IN.

1.2 Objectives

- Ensure health and safety of the public and response personnel.
- Provide and manage necessary communications, both internally and externally.
- Provide home cleanings and temporary relocation for residents in Zone 1.
- Perform soil sampling in Zones 2 and 3.

1.3 Staffing

As of 1500 hours, 83 people were checked in either on site or in the EOC. For more detailed staffing information, see Section 3: Metrics Table or Appendix B: Organizational Chart.

Section 2: Activities During Reporting Period

2.1 Incident Command

- Attended Daily OPs call with EPA senior management and HQ at 0900.
- Scheduled Multi-Agency Coordination Team Call for 8/25. Invited ATSDR, ISDH, HUD, ECHA, East Chicago Health Department, City of East Chicago, CDC Region 5 Pediatric Environmental Health Specialty Unit, EPA Region 5 Office of Children's Health, and East Chicago Schools.
- Met with HUD to discuss current status updates on vouchers and began outline future plans for closer coordination. Onsite HUD representative will attend tomorrow's daily Ops briefing with Regional and HQ staff.
- Meeting this afternoon with HUD to coordinate sensitive populations/high priority lists to support both the HUD relocation process and EPA temporary relocation and cleaning.

2.2 Indoor Sampling Team

- Sampled a total of 65 residences to date. 3 of 8 scheduled today have been completed, 3 pending. 2 were not home and did not answer calls. 8 scheduled for tomorrow.
- Scheduled sampling at Carrie Gosch School for Thursday prior to moving ICP.
- Performed cleaning confirmation sampling at 1 residence today.

2.3 Community Involvement Team

- Answered EPA hotline (219-801-2199), emails, and walk-up questions from residents.
- Scheduled 5 appointments for the relocation team.
- Finalizing EPA's flyer on water sampling; it is currently being reviewed by the city. No later than tomorrow morning, either the Mayor or Utilities Director will provide specific information on testing results and a contact number for residents requesting additional information. The earlier version of the flyer has not been distributed
- Developing a plan for availability session on 8/30, tentatively scheduled for two sessions (1-4 pm and 6-8 pm). Currently scheduling staffing, developing an ad, and planning to distribute flyers door to door, preparing a list of questions people should be prepared to respond to, and coordinating with other agencies.
- Beginning the early stages of planning for a public meeting to provide information on cleanup and sampling in Zones 2 and 3.
- Developing a telephone script to notify Zone 3 residents about soil sampling results in coordination with the Remedial Project Managers.

2.4 Relocation Team

- Completed 2 interviews with residents, 3 more scheduled today.
- 5 interviews scheduled for tomorrow.
- 0 family returned home today; 0 return home tomorrow.
- 4 families relocating today.
- Scheduled temporary relocation move-out dates:
 - 3 families temporarily relocating on 8/25.
 - 3 families temporarily relocating on 8/26; 4 returning home.
 - 6 families returning home 8/27.
 - 3 families temporarily relocating on 8/29; 3 returning home.
 - 3 families temporarily relocating on 8/30.
 - 3 families temporarily relocating on 8/31.
 - 2 families temporarily relocating on 9/1.
 - 3 families temporarily relocating on 9/6.
 - 3 families temporarily relocating on 9/7.
 - 3 families temporarily relocating on 9/8.

2.5 Legal/Liaison

- Working to finalize Action Memo.
- Confirming meeting with Mayor of East Chicago, tentatively scheduled for Friday.
- Per Regional Administrator's request, sending out Data Management Sharing Agreements similar to the one used in Flint Water Response to external agencies prior to access to EPA database.

<u>Meeting</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Date</u>
Common Council Meeting	East Chicago City Hall	8/24/16
Mayor of East Chicago	East Chicago City Hall	8/26/16
Multi-Agency Availability Session	Carrie Gosch School	8/30/16

2.6 Public Information

- Coordinated with media outlets to conduct background site interviews.
- Attended meeting between RA and Mayor Copeland.
- Held call with IDEM about upcoming and already posted news articles.
- Working to finalize the water flyer.

2.7 Safety

- Inspected all ICP trailers for general safety issues, cabling and portable electric power, and general housekeeping. No major issues identified, minor cabling issues corrected on-site.
- Observed in-home dust sampling activities of START/EPA teams for safety compliance. All teams were in compliance with the safety objectives.
- Completed review of amendments to the Health and Safety Plan. Recommended for approval to the Incident Commander and Safety Officer.

2.8 Finance

- Additional remedial funding was approved and will be added to both ERRS and START shortly.
- Working to ensure accounting codes work across EPA systems.

2.9 Remedial (Zone 2 & 3)

- Running 4 full operating teams; 3 sampling teams are collecting samples in South of Zone 2 and 1 team is processing the samples and working to complete database requests.
 - Storms slowed the teams down today.
- Sampled soil at 1 locations in Zone 2, bringing to total to 58.
- Resampled soil at 2 locations in Zone 3.
- Signed 4 access agreements, bringing total to 320.
- Meeting with START to make iPads as the primary source of field information, as requested.
- One worker injured and was taken for treatment.

2.10 Data Management

- Continue tracking progress of ERS photo and video documentation storage server for linkage to USEPA services. Relocation forms will be stored on ERRS server with all other photo/video documentation.
- XRF iForm has been created. Scribe database will now be uploaded with XRF lead paint data.
- Meeting with remedial contractors to establish data flows and responsibilities.
- Made final tweaks to remedial sample iForm. Training them in the field to upload to their field Scribe database. Data will be merged with our master database.

Section 3: Metrics Table

Metrics—Sampling, Zone 1	Today	To Date
Residences with Indoor Dust Samples Collected	3 complete 3 scheduled	65
Residences Scheduled for Indoor Dust Sampling	8	47
Sampling Results Received from Lab	0	42
Residences Contacted about Sampling Results	0	34
Metrics—Sampling, Zone 2		
Total Properties		586
Access Agreements Signed	4	320
Soil Samples Collected	1	58
Metrics—Sampling, Zone 3		
Total Properties		463
Access Agreements Signed	4	406
No Access/Denied Access		57
Metrics—Relocation		
Residents Contacted	11	167
Relocation Interviews Conducted	2 complete 3 pending	48
Cleaning Access Agreements Signed	2 complete 3 pending	48
Households Relocated Currently (less than 1 week)	8	
Homes Cleaned		11
Households Returned to Home		10
Metrics—Personnel		
EPA on site	18	
Coordinating agency onsite	3	
Contractors/other onsite	57	
EPA in Emergency Operations Center (EOC)	2	
TOTAL	83	

Section 4: Definition of Terms

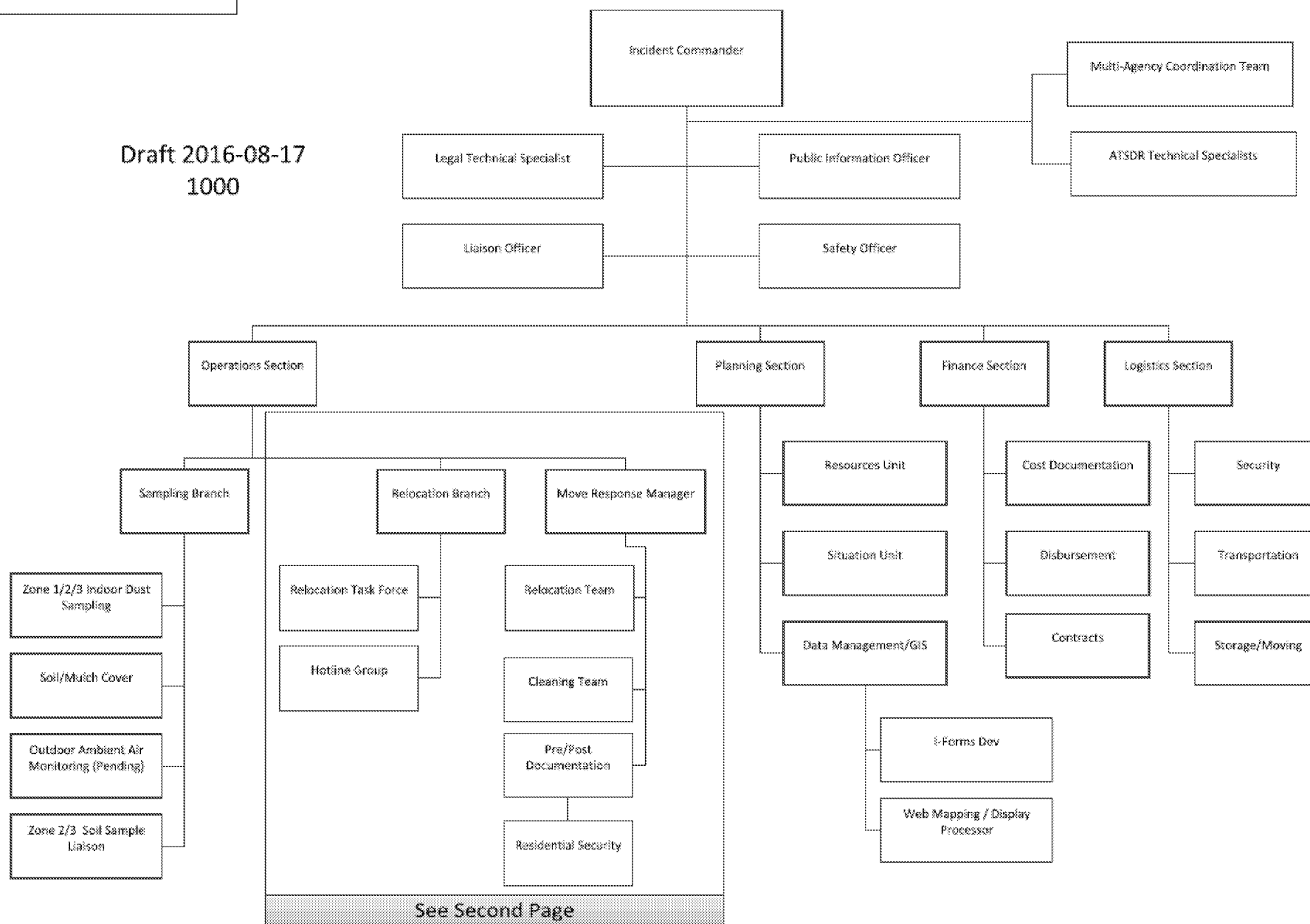
Acronym	Definition
ATSDR	Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry
DOJ	Department of Justice
ECHA	East Chicago Housing Authority
EDD	Electronic Data Deliverable
EOC	Emergency Operations Center
ERRS	Emergency Rapid Response Services
EPA	United States Environmental Protection Agency
HUD	Department of Housing and Urban Development
ICP	Incident Command Post
ISDH	Indiana State Department of Health
ORC	Office of Regional Counsel
NPL	National Priority List
PII	Personally Identifiable Information
SitRep	Situation Report
START	Superfund Technical Assessment and Response Team
WCHC	West Calumet Housing Complex
U.S.S Lead	U.S. Smelter and Lead Refinery, Inc.
XRF	X-ray Fluorescence

Appendix A Site Diagram



Appendix B Organizational Chart

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